L. Acheson (A.) 1st Visct Gosford & Major Wardle (Gr.)

Extract of a Letter from Lord Viſcount Gosford, Colonel of the Armagh Militia, and Major Wardle, of the Ancient Britiſh Light Dragoons, to Lieutenant General Lake, dated Naas, Thurſday Morning, 8 o'Clock, 24th May, 1798.

" THIS Morning, about Half paſt 2 o'Clock, a Dragoon, from an Out-poſt, " came in and informed MAJOR WARDLE, of the Ancient Britiſh, that a very " conſiderable armed Body were approaching rapidly upon the Town. The " whole Garriſon were inſtantly under Arms, and took up their Poſitions ac- " cording to a Plan previouſly formed in Caſe of ſuch an Event happening. " They made the Attack upon our Troops, poſted near the Gaol, with great " Violence, but were repulſed: They then made a general Attack in almoſt " every Direction, as they had got Poſſeſſion of almoſt every Avenue into the " Town. They continued to engage the Troops for near three Quarters of " an Hour, when they gave Way, and fled on all Sides. The Cavalry imme- " diately took Advantage of their Confuſion, charged in almoſt every Di- " rection, and killed a great Number of them. A great Quantity of Arms and " Pikes were taken, and within this Half Hour many Hundred more were " brought in, found in Pits near the Town, together with three Men with " green Cockades, all of whom were hanged in the public Street. We took " another Priſoner, whom we have ſpared, in Conſequence of his having given " us Information that will enable us to purſue theſe Rebels; and from this " Man we learn that they were above a Thouſand ſtrong: They were com- " manded, as this Man informs us, by MICHAEL REYNOLDS, who was well " mounted, and dreſſed in Yeoman Uniform, but unfortunately made his " Eſcape; his Horſe we have got.

" When we are able to collect further Particulars, you ſhall be made acquainted with them. About thirty Rebels were killed in the Streets; in the Fields, we imagine, above an Hundred; their Bodies have not yet been brought together.

" It is impoſſible to ſay too much of the Cavalry and Infantry; their Conduct was exemplary throughout.."

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